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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****JAN 29 2007**Docket No. AME-T115
Serial No. 10/713,529

9

Remarks

Claims 21-71 are currently pending in this application. By this Amendment, applicant cancels claims 21, 23, 25, and 32-50. Therefore, claims 22, 24, 26, 27-31 and 51-71 are presented to the Examiner for consideration.

Claims 21, 23 and 37-50 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,663,755. Claim 25 likewise has been rejected on that ground over the same patent. The subject claims have been cancelled. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 32-36 have been objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 27-31 of the subject application. Claims 32-36 have been cancelled by this Amendment. Applicant therefore respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claim 27-31 and 57-71 are allowed. The Office Action further notes that claims 22, 24, 26 and 51-56 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. These claims have been so rewritten by this Amendment.

It should be understood that these amendments have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicant's agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position. Applicant expressly reserves the right to pursue the invention(s) disclosed in the subject application, including any subject matter canceled or not pursued during prosecution of the subject application, in a related application.

10

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In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, the applicant believes that the claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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